



PATENT

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the fifteen (15) references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) for consideration and to be made of record herein by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-captioned application.

Consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP 609 are respectfully requested.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be submitted prior to issuance of a first Office Action. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no fee is required for consideration of this information. However, in the event any

fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1640.

Respectfully submitted,

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